

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A cup-like broth container having a generally octagonal cross section, an open top surface, and a closed bottom surface, the container comprising four mutually opposed pairs of connected sidewalls with a protruding rib formed on each of four perpendicularly opposed single sidewalls, said broth container further comprising four Y-shaped clamping ridges, each ridge having one leg portion and two extending arm portions, wherein each leg of the Y-shaped clamping ridge is attached to and extends outwardly from a single one of the four sidewalls located between the four sidewalls having a protruding rib.

Claim 2. (cancelled)

Claim 3. (original) The broth container of claim 1 wherein the protruding ribs formed on each of four sidewalls fully extend from the top surface to the bottom surface of the broth container.

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Claim 4. (currently amended) The broth container of claim 1 ~~2~~ wherein the Y-shaped clamping ridges extend about 50% to 80% of the length of sidewalls from the top surface towards the bottom.

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Claim 5. (original) The broth container of claim 1 wherein the protruding ribs protrude about 1/8th inch outwards from the sidewalls.

Claim 6. (currently amended) The broth container of claim 1 ~~2~~ wherein the Y-shaped clamping ridges protrude about 1/8th inch outwards from the sidewalls.

Claim 7. (currently amended) The broth container of claim 1 ~~2~~ wherein the arm-portions and leg-portions of the clamping ridges provide a vertically oriented recessed surface adapted to mate with a clamping members of a robotic handling apparatus.